

SHING TIME STATION(w.t.)

EPISODE #10
(UNTITLED)

Working Draft
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Revised 4/14/88

From the characters and series storyline
created by Britt Allcroft and Rick Siggelkow

c Quality Family Entertainment Inc., 1988

(FADE IN:)

(INT. LOST AND FOUND AREA)

(MATT AND TANYA SIT ON THE FLOOR, BUILDING A HOUSE OF BLOCKS. TANYA FINISHES A SECTION OF THE FOURTH STORY. MATT PICKS UP A BLOCK TO TAKE HIS TURN. HE HAS A LOOK OF INTENSE CONCENTRATION.)

TANYA

Be careful. Don't mess it up again.

MATT

Shhh. Let me concentrate.

(MATT DELICATELY PLACES A BLOCK ON THE HOUSE. AS HE REMOVES HIS HAND THE ENTIRE HOUSE TUMBLES TO THE FLOOR.)

TANYA

AGHHHHHH! Not again.

MATT

I'm sorry

TANYA

That's the second time, Matt. I don't believe you.

MATT

Hey, I didn't do it on purpose.

TANYA

Well, you should be more careful.

MATT

It was an accident.

STACY ENTERS THE STATION. SHE IS PUTTING ON ONE OF HER EARRINGS AS SHE RUSHES OVER TO THE TICKET BOOTH.)

STACY

Hi kids. What a day. First I
overslept. Then I couldn't find my
keys and they turned out to be in my
pocket. Something about today that I
just don't like... There.

(STACY POSTS THE SIGN FOR THE TRAIN TO PELICAN FALLS.)

STACY (CONT.)

I'm late for a meeting. See you later.

(STACY EXITS.)

(DISSOLVE TO: STATION - LATER)

(A NEW HOUSE OF BLOCKS. IT IS TWO AND A HALF STORIES HIGH.
MATT PLACES A COUPLE OF BLOCKS ON THE HOUSE.)

MATT

Why don't you take it from here.

(TANYA ADDS A COUPLE OF BLOCKS.)

TANYA

We'll build the tallest house of blocks
in the world.

(A WOMAN PASSENGER ENTERS THE STATION. SHE CARRIES TWO
LARGE SUITCASES AND A HAT BOX COVER TO THE TICKET BOOTH.
SHE PUTS DOWN HER LUGGAGE AND STARES AT THE SIGN.)

WOMAN

Eleven o'clock! I thought the train to
Pelican Falls left at noon. I've
missed it.

(voice rising)

I MISSED MY TRAIN!

(THE WOMAN PICKS UP HER LUGGAGE AND WALKS OVER TO THE KIDS.)

WOMAN (CONT.)

Do you know how to get to Pelican Falls?

TANYA

Take the next train.

WOMAN

The next train is at four and I have
to be at my sister's wedding by
three-thirty. I'm the maid of honor.
She'll never forgive me.

MATT

Never forgive you. That's awful.

WOMAN

I'll never forgive me. I can't believe
I'm missing her wedding.

(THE WOMAN PICKS UP HER BAGS AND STARTS TO LEAVE.)

MATT

I don't remember the train for Pelican
Falls coming through, do you?

TANYA

No.

(THE WOMAN STORMS OUT OF THE STATION, SLAMMING THE DOOR.
THE HOUSE OF BLOCKS TUMBLES TO THE FLOOR.)

(THE KIDS GROAN. FATIGUED, THEY LIE ON THE FLOOR LOOKING
UP AT THE CEILING.)

TANYA

We'll never get this house built.

MATT

We could start again.

TANYA

Forget it.

(MR. CONDUCTOR APPEARS IN THE CORNER.)

MR.C

Why so glum everyone?

MATT

Hi, Mr. Conductor.

(MR. CONDUCTOR DISAPPEARS AND REAPPEARS NEXT TO THE PILE OF
BLOCKS. THREE BLOCKS ARE STILL SET UP AND HE SITS DOWN
USING THEM AS A BENCH.)

TANYA

We're trying to build with blocks and
Matt knocked it down twice. Then this
woman missed her train and slammed the
door and knocked it down again. People
are really acting dumb.

MR. C.

It sounds like people are having
accidents.

TANYA

Well I don't like it.

MR. C.

You never had an accident?

TANYA

Not recently.

MR. C.

Come with me Tanya. You too, Matt.

(HE LEADS THEM TO THE ANYTHING DOOR.)

MR. C. (CONT.)

Nobody knows why the world isn't
perfect but it isn't. Accidents happen
to everybody and they're nobody's
fault. That's why they're called
accidents. Even Superman has accidents.

TANYA

No way, not Superman.

MR.C.

Watch

(MR. C. OPENS THE ANYTHING DOOR AND WE SEE THE SUPERMAN
ANIMATION SEGMENT FROM OOOPS.)

(SCHEMER AND STACY ENTER. MR. CONDUCTOR POPS AWAY)

(SCHEMER SITS ON A CRATE AND PULLS A MEATBALL SUB OUT OF A
BAG. MATT RUNS UP TO STACY.)

MATT

Aunt Stacy. A woman wanted to go to
Pelican Falls for a wedding but she
missed the train.

(STACY GLANCES AT THE CLOCK.)

STACY

The Pelican Falls train isn't due for
another half-hour.

MATT

The sign on the ticket booth says
eleven o'clock.

STACY

That can't be.

(SHE WALKS OVER TO THE SIGN.)

STACY (CONT.)

Oh no! I put up the wrong sign.

(SCHEMER BITES INTO HIS SANDWICH.)

SCHEMER

That's what happens when you put a lady
in charge of a train station.

STACY

(ignoring Schemer)

That poor woman. She missed her train
because I made a mistake. I feel awful.

MATT

It was an accident. It wasn't your
fault.

(STACY TAKES DOWN THE SIGN.)

STACY

In a world full of uncertainties,
people look to the railroad for
perfection. There's no room for
schedule errors at a railroad.

SCHEMER

(chewing on his sandwich)

Not to mention that you made a paying
customer angry. That's the biggest sin
of all.

STACY

There are some things more important
than money.

(ON HEARING THIS, SCHEMER'S HEAD JERKS AND ONE OF THE
MEATBALLS POPS OUT OF THE HERO-BREAD, LANDS ON HIS SHIRT
AND FALLS TO THE FLOOR.)

SCHEMER

Now look what you made me do.

(MATT AND TANYA STIFLE THEIR LAUGH. HE GLARES AT THEM.
SCHEMER PICKS UP THE MEATBALL. AS HE HEADS OUT OF THE
STATION, HE DROPS IT IN THE TRASH.)

SCHEMER

I paid two dollars for this sandwich.
There are five meatballs in it. That's
forty cents a meatball. You just cost
me forty cents.

(SCHEMER LEAVES IN A HUFF. STACY TURNS BACK TO THE KIDS.)

STACY

You guys wait here. I'm going to see
if I can find the woman who missed the
train.

(STACY SHUFFLES OFF TO LOOK FOR THE WOMAN.)

(MR. CONDUCTOR RETURNS, PERCHED IN THE INFORMATION COUNTER.)

MR. C.

Stacy seemed a bit down at the mouth,
didn't she?

TANYA

She's mad at herself for making a
mistake.

MR. C.

I remember a time when everyone was mad
at Henry for making mistakes. They
thought he was no good at all. But it
turned out quite the opposite.

(DISSOLVE TO THOMAS EPISODE #18 -- COAL)

MATT

I wish there was something we could do
to cheer up Aunt Stacy.

MR. C.

What cheers you up when you're down?

TANYA

I know. When you make up funny rhymes.

MR.C.

Oh yes, words are wonderful. They can
do anything. Why don't you make up
some rhymes for Stacy.

MATT

Good idea! Something about trains.

TANYA

Yeah, about what a good job she does
running the station.

MATT

Okay...Okay... I've got something.
There once was a train that was quick
as a flash. ..um ... um...I can't think
of anything that rhymes with flash.

TANYA

I've got it. It went off its track and
had a great crash...Ooops, that's no
good. That won't cheer anyone up.

MR. C.

You kids need a little help. What's
called for here is a rhyming spell.

(MR. C. WAVES HIS HANDS DEMONSTRATIVELY.)

MR.C. (CONT.)

Tanya and Matt, now then you speak.
From your mind to your mouth, you'll
talk a fast streak. Rhythm in time,
and words that do rhyme, will spring
forth from your lips at the drop of a
dime.

(MR. CONDUCTOR WAVES HIS HANDS AND VANISHES AND A DIME
APPEARS SUSPENDED IN MID-AIR. IT FALLS TO THE FLOOR AND
ROLLS OVER TOWARD THE ARCHWAY. THE CAMERA FOLLOWS IT TO
STACY WHO ENTERS THE STATION.)

STACY

That woman who missed her train
is nowhere to be found. She'll
never make the wedding.

(TANYA AND MATT RUN UP TO STACY.)

TANYA

You made a mistake but you're not to
blame.
Cheer up and smile, get rid of your
shame.

MATT

Accidents happen to everyone,
So forgive yourself and start having
fun.

(THEY DANCE AROUND STACY. SHE BEGINS TO SMILE A LITTLE.)

TANYA

This station for trains, it runs pretty
well,
And on one mistake you never should
dwell

MATT

If it weren't for you there'd be no
train station.
We think you deserve a standing
ovation.

(THE KIDS APPLAUD AND STACY BREAKS INTO A BIG SMILE.)

STACY

That was wonderful. I'm going to find a
pad and paper and write a poem for you.

(SHE HEADS OFF TO THE LOST AND FOUND AREA AND OPENS A
DOOR. INSIDE THERE IS A JUGGLER WHO KEEPS DROPPING BALLS.)

STACY

Sorry, wrong door. I guess it's not
his day either.

(STACY OPENS OTHERDRAWERS LOOKING FOR A PAD AND PENCIL.
FINDING NOTHING SHE HEADS TOWARDS HARRY'S OFFICE.)

(SCHEMER ENTERS THE STATION. HE SPOTS THE MAGIC DIME ON
THE FLOOR. HE GLANCES ABOUT, SEES NOBODY WATCHING, BENDS
AND PICKS IT UP. THE KIDS SEE HIM.)

TANYA

Schemer!

(STARTLED, SCHEMER DROPS A DIME.)

MATT

Did you see Schemer drop a dime?

I feel the need to make a rhyme.

TANYA

A rhyme that's witty and quite snappy,

Makes everybody glad and happy.

SCHEMER

Not me, I hate rhymes.

(looks around the floor)

Dag Blasted where's that dime.

MATT

Is that a rhyme that I just heard,

Did Schemer make a play on words?

SCHEMER

I would never rhyme my words.

That would truly be absurd.

(TANYA AND MATT LAUGH. SCHEMER CLEARS HIS THROAT.)

SCHEMER (CONT.)

You've got me started and I can't stop,

Making my words go flippety flop.

(SCHEMER RUSHES OVER TO THE JUKE BOX AND THROWS A NICKEL IN.)

SCHEMER (CONT.)

This is totally outrageous,
these stupid rhymes are contagious.
I'll play a song to clear my head.
And stop this rhyming business dead.

(INSIDE THE JUKE BOX)

(THE LIGHTS FLICKER ON. THE PUPPETS ARE SOUND ASLEEP,
SNORING COMFORTABLY. THERE IS A LOUD CLANGING SOUND AS THE
NICKEL ROLLS DOWN ITS CHUTE AND INTO THE ROOM. THE DRUMMER
OPENS HER EYES.)

DRUMMER

Come on. Who's making the racket.

(SHE SEES THE GIANT NICKEL.)

DRUMMER

Everybody up. We're on.

(SHE STARTS PICKING UP HER DRUM SET AS THE OTHER MEMBERS OF
THE BAND ROUSE THEMSELVES FROM SLEEP.)

TEX

What?

REX

We're on?

PIANO

What are we playing?

(OUTSIDE THE JUKE BOX)

(SCHEMER POUNDS ON THE TOP OF THE JUKE BOX.)

SCHEMER

What's wrong with this thing?
I payed good money to hear it sing.

(INSIDE)

(SCHEMER'S POUNDING SOUNDS LIKE THUNDER. THE BAND
SCRAMBLES INTO POSITION)

BASS

The Wreck of Old Ninety-Seven. Ready?

One, two...

(THE PIANO PLAYER STARTS PLAYING ON THREE.)

BASS

No. We go on four.

PIANO

Sorry, my mistake.

BASS

One, two...

(REX STARTS PLAYING ON "THREE", FOLLOWED BY TEX ON "FOUR".
THE PIANO, DRUMS AND BASS COME IN LATE AND THE SOUND IS
AWFUL.)

(OUTSIDE)

SCHEMER

Did one of you kids break this?

(SCHEMER TURNS THE MACHINE OFF.)

MATT

We didn't touch it.

SCHEMER

Well I'm getting my tools. I better
not have to shell out any money for
spare parts. I'll tell you that.

(SCHEMER LEAVES.)

(INSIDE THE JUKE BOX)

PIANO

When he comes back we better have our
gig together.

DRUMMER

I'll say. That guy is trouble.

(OUTSIDE)

(HARRY EMERGES FROM HIS OFFICE CARRYING A SECTION OF IRON
RAILING.)

HARRY

What's all the commotion?

TANYA

Everyone's having accidents,
Grandpa. That is except me and Mr.
Conductor.

MATT

Now the Juke Box is broken. Schemer's
getting his tools to try to fix it.

HARRY

That Juke, she's very delicate. The
way old Schemer hurries about, he's
likely to ruin her. You know, rushing
and hurrying is the cause of most of
the accidents in this world. If
people'd just slow down a little,
take their time and think things
through, why there'd be a lot fewer
accidents.

(HARRY SITS AND FIDDLES WITH THE SECTION OF THE IRON
RAILING.)

HARRY (CONT.)

When I was an engineer, I once found my
train on the wrong track. 'Nother
feller's mistake, naturally. Now
what would you do if you found
yourselves on the wrong track?

MATT

I'd blow the whistle loudly so the
other trains would know I was coming.

TANYA

I'd go as fast as I could to the next
station where they could put me on the
right track.

HARRY

That's what I thought at first. But
then I realized I could use my radio to
warn the other trains.

MATT

Trains have radios?

HARRY

You bet. Just like airplanes. Well,
once I did that, I thought some more
and realized the fastest way to get
myself on the right track was to go
backwards a short spell. Careful
thought and taking your time, that's
the ticket to avoiding accidents.

(HARRY HEADS OFF.)

HARRY (CONT.)

Got fix the railing outside before some
passenger in a hurry falls off the
platform.

(HARRY HEADS OUT AND MATT AND TANYA WALK OVER TO THE JUKE
BOX, FLIP ON THE POWER AND PEER IN AT THE PUPPETS.)

MATT

Try playing the song again. Just take
you time and don't rush it.

TANYA

Think through what you have to do, take
a deep breath, then begin.

(INSIDE THE JUKE BOX)

PIANO

Now that's some good advice. Is
everybody ready?

TEXT

(Takes a deep breath)

Ready.

REX

(nods)

Set.

DRUMS

(clicks her sticks)

Go.

BASS

One, and two and...

(ON FOUR, THEY BEGIN TO PLAY THE SONG "THE WRECK OF OLD
'97'" EXPERTLY. WHEN THE SONG IS OVER MATT SNIFFS THE AIR.)

MATT

Do you smell smoke?

(TANYA PULLS SOME FLOWERS OUT OF A VASE AND CARRIES IT OVER
TO MR. CONDUCTOR'S HOUSE.)

TANYA

Mr. Conductor!

MATT

Mr. Conductor, are you all right?

(THERE IS NO ANSWER)

TANYA

Fiiier!

(TANYA IS ABOUT TO HEAVE THE WATER FROM THE VASE INTO THE
WINDOW JUST AS MR. CONDUCTOR APPEARS.

MR. C.

What's all the commotion? There isn't
a fire.

TANYA

Sorry. But we saw smoke.

MR.C.

I left some Yorkshire pudding in the oven and forgot about it. It burned to a crisp. That's what caused all the smoke.

MATT

Even Mr. Conductor has accidents.

MR. C.

I have accidents all the time. Did I ever tell you about Henry's accident?

TANYA

Henry had an accident?

MR. C.

Oh, yes. Poor fellow. Quite an accident, indeed...

(DISSOLVE TO THOMAS EPISODE #19 -- THE FLYING KIPPER.)

(SCHEMER IS OPENING UP THE JUKE BOX. MATT AND TANYA RUSH OVER TO HIM.)

(INSIDE THE JUKE BOX)

(ALL THE PUPPETS ARE COWERING BEHIND A WALL. THE BASS PLAYER PEEKS UP AND SEES SCHEMER'S GIANT FACE LEANING IN THE JUKE BOX OPENING. TERRIFIED, SHE DUCKS DOWN.)

BASS

(whispering to others)

He's coming in.

(THEY ALL SHUDDER AND DUCK LOWER)

(OUTSIDE)

SCHEMER

Can't see anything wrong with it.

MATT

It worked fine after you left.

TANYA

It played the song perfectly.

SCHEMER

Well what was wrong with it?

MATT

You didn't give it enough time to warm
up.

TANYA

Right. You can't just turn on the
power and push the song button and
expect it to start playing. This Juke,
she's a delicate machine.

(SCHEMER LEANS OVER TO THE KIDS AND LOWERS HIS VOICE
SPEAKING CONFIDENTIALLY.)

SCHEMER

There weren't any nickels in there.

What happens to the nickels?

(MATT AND TANYA SHRUG. SCHEMER STRAIGHTENS UP.)

SCHEMER (CONT.)

One of these days I'm going to take
that thing apart and find my nickels.

(SCHEMER WALKS OUT OF THE STATION. HE PASSES STACY WHO IS
OVER AT THE NICKELODEON. SHE HOLDS A PAD AND AND PENCIL.)

STACY

Hey kids, come here. I wrote a poem
for you.

(MATT AND TANYA JOIN STACY AT THE NICKELODEON.)

STACY (CONT.)

When I was glum and feeling low,
You brought to me your rhymes to show.
You told me I was not to blame,
And made me smile with your game.
And now because you were true blue,
I'll show this special show to you.

(SHE STARTS TO TURN THE NICKELODEON HANDLE. THEY WATCH:)

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN TO ANYONE.

(THE WOMAN PASSENGER WHO MISSED HER TRAIN ENTERS THE
STATION CARRYING HER TWO SUITCASES AND HAT BOX.)

(MATT SEES HER)

MATT

Aunt Stacy, that's the woman who
thought she missed her train.

(STACY AND THE KIDS RUSH TO HELP HER. THEY ARE OVEREAGER,
FAWNING OVER HER. STACY AND TANYA EACH TAKE A SUITCASE AND
MATT GRABS THE HAT BOX.)

STACY

Let us help you. I'm so sorry about
your missing the wedding. I made a
mistake and put up the wrong sign.

WOMAN

I'm going to take the four o'clock.
I'll get to Pelican Falls before the
reception is over.

TANYA

Right this way, Madam.

WOMAN

You're all so helpful. Thank you.

(THE GROUP HEADS TOWARD THE ARCHWAY TO THE PLATFORM.)

(TANYA IS SHIFTING THE LARGE SUITCASE IN HER ARMS WHEN SHE STUMBLES AND DROPS IT. IT POPS OPEN SPEWING THE WOMAN'S BELONGINGS ALL OVER THE STATION FLOOR.)

TANYA

AHHHH!

STACY

My goodness.

TANYA

I'm so sorry. I was rushing. It was
an ...

(Slows down as the familiar word
registers) AC-CI-DENT.

WOMAN

Don't worry, dear. Everyone has
accidents.

TANYA

I guess they do.

(SHE AND MATT EXCHANGE GLANCES)

(EVERYONE BEGINS TO GATHER UP THE WOMAN'S BELONGINGS AND
PUT THEM BACK INTO THE SUITCASE.)

(STACY PICKS UP A DRESS.)

WOMAN

(sad)

That was going to be my maid of honor
gown.

STACY

It's lovely.

(becomes sad)

I'm sure you would have looked
beautiful in it. I'm sorry about the
mix-up.

(TANYA PICKS UP AN ENGRAVED CARD FROM THE FLOOR. SHE TURNS
IT OVER AND LOOKS AT IT.)

TANYA

Wait a second everyone. What's today's
date.

STACY

It's the third.

TANYA

Well the wedding is on the fourth.
That's tomorrow.

(TANYA HANDS THE INVITATION TO THE WOMAN.)

WOMAN

It is tomorrow! What a mistake. How
embarrassing to arrive a day early.
Can you imagine? Am I ever glad I
missed that train.

MATT

So your accident was a good one, Aunt
Stacy. It stopped her from being a day
early.

TANYA

I never realized there could be such as
thing as a good accident.

STACY

Well, sometimes good things can come
out of an accident

(EVERYONE FINISHES GATHERING UP THE WOMAN'S BELONGINGS.
THE WOMAN FINDS THE MAGIC DIME IN THE FLOOR.)

WOMAN

Did someone drop a dime?

(EVERYONE LOOKS UP SCHEMER IS STANDING BY THE ARCADE
DRINKING A SODA.)

SCHEMER

That's my dime , Miss.

(HE HOLDS OUT HIS HAND. THE WOMAN TOSSES IT TO HIM.
SCHEMER DROPS IT. HE BENDS TO PICK IT UP, THE SODA CAN
BENDS WITH HIM (IN CHAPLINESQUE STYLE) AND SODA POURS OUT
ONTO HIS SHOES.)

SCHEMER

I just bought these shoes. Twenty bucks.

TANYA

Oh no, Matt, the dime just fell,
Here comes another rhyming spell.

SCHEMER

Don't you kids start that again.

MATT

Words and sayings just come out,
Without a thought, without a doubt.

TANYA

They aren't rhymes that we invent,
They just come out by accident.

(STACY AND THE WOMAN LAUGH. SCHEMER STRUTS OUT OF THE
STATION IN A HUFF.)

(THE DIME ROLLS INTO A CORNER WHERE MR. CONDUCTOR STOPS
IT. HE SPINS IT AROUND AND HE AND THE DIME DISAPPEAR.)

FADE OUT: